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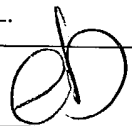
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/967,302	09/28/2001	Steven J. Gatewood	IP 6141 US	5206
1726	7590	06/29/2004	EXAMINER	
INTERNATIONAL PAPER COMPANY 6285 TRI-RIDGE BOULEVARD LOVELAND, OH 45140			TARAZANO, DONALD LAWRENCE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

1773

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/967,302	Applicant(s) GATEWOOD ET AL.	
	Examiner D. Lawrence Tarazano	Art Unit 1773	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 April 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.
- 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 9 and 24-32 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) 24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 9 and 25-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 - 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/03/2004 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

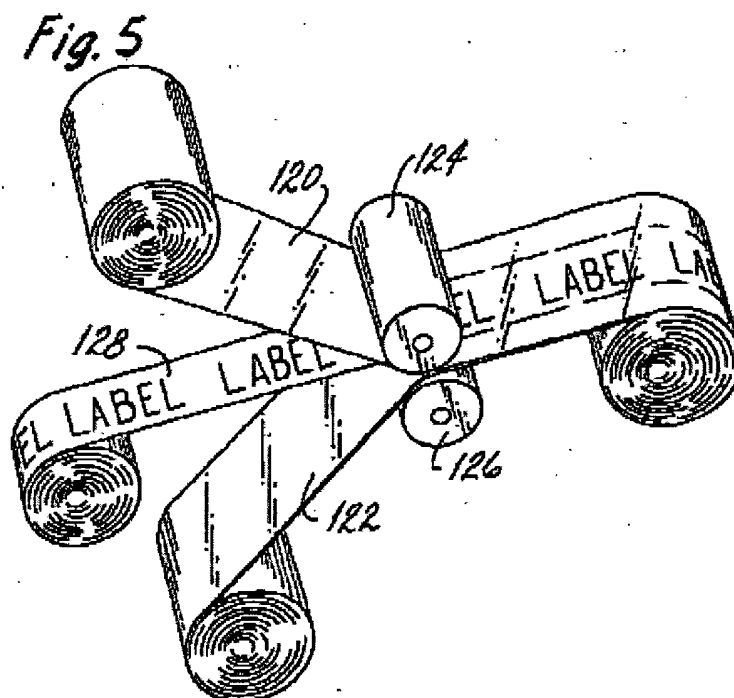
2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 9, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wiggins et al. (3,924,0512)

2. Wiggins et al teach biaxially oriented films comprising a layer of vinylidene chloride and a layer of an ethylene unsaturated ester (ethylene vinyl acetate). These films are laminated to one or both sides of a paper layer (Example V and Example VII). Figure 6 shows two layers of the film being laminated to a printed substrate.



Since the printing is sandwiched between the biaxially oriented plastic film (120) and the paper layer (128), the ink layer would be sandwiched between the two structures. The examiner takes the position that the end product would be the same as one in which the film was printed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

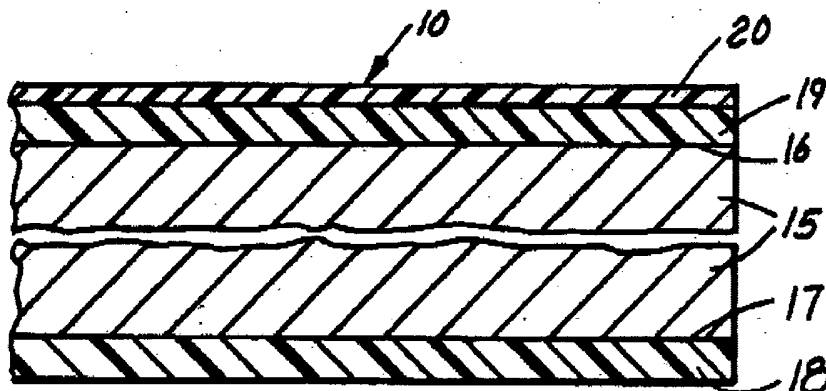
3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 9, 25-32 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin, Jr. 4,806,398.

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As shown by figure 3 below, Martin teaches a multilayer structure comprising a biaxially oriented polyester layer (20), a LDPE adhesive layer (19), and a paperboard substrate (15). See column 6, lines 44+.



4. The structures may be surface treated by methods such as flame or corona treatment (column 9, lines 25+) and the structures may be printed. See claims 1 and 4 and the examples.
5. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have printed the surface layer of the plastic or the paper or both depending on how the packaging was used. For example packaging graphic might be printed on the surface of paper, but things such as dates, prices, batch numbers etc... might be printed on the surface of the film at the time it is formed into a package to indicate something particular about the materials which were packaged. This would be nothing more than standard packaging operations.
6. In the package forming process layer 18 is heat bonded to layer 20 forming the applicants sandwiched structures in which two biaxially oriented films are bond to a layer of cardboard.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 3/03/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The examiner noted in the final office action that claim 9 would be allowable. In the advisory action the examiner noted that the applicants had not incorporated the subject matter of claim 9 into claim 1 or the converse. The applicants essentially just made claim 9 an independent claim.

5.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to D. Lawrence Tarazano whose telephone number is (571)-272-1515. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 to 6:00 (off every other Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul J Thibodeau can be reached on (571)-272-1516. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

D. Lawrence Tarazano
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1773

dlt

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' followed by 'L' and 'T' in a cursive, connected style.